

# SCARBOROUGH TRANSIT **ACTION**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Transit advocates demand Tory to stop wasting millions more for less on his Lawrence East SmartTrack/one-stop subway plan.**

Members of Scarborough Transit Action, a transit advocacy group, are urging Mayor Tory to abandon his plan to replace four Scarborough RT stations: McCowan, Midland, Ellesmere and McCowan with one GO/SmartTrack station at Lawrence East.

Advocates say his Lawrence East SmartTrack/one stop subway plan is wasting millions for less rapid transit than we have now and Tory should go back to building the seven-stop Scarborough LRT.

They plan to ask some tough questions about the Lawrence East SmartTrack station at tonight's SmartTrack public consultation meeting at the Scarborough Civic Centre:

"TTC riders will still have to pay an extra \$1.50 and wait ten minutes longer than they do now to get on a SmartTrack train at Lawrence East. How can the mayor assume people are going to ride this line?", asks STA member Moya Beall.

"Scarborough Transit Action has surveyed more than 200 people who use the Lawrence East SRT station and very few of them know about the plan to take away their station. Doesn't Mayor Tory think that the people who use the current service should have a say?", questions STA co-chair Vincent Puhakka.

"Given a ridership projection for the Lawrence East SmartTrack station of 7,000 less than the existing SRT of 16,000 and given the cost of building the Lawrence East SmartTrack station has already jumped from \$23 to \$155 million, why spend more money to attract fewer riders when we could avoid eliminating any SRT stations with a provincially funded, seven-stop LRT", says STA co-chair Brenda Thompson.